

REMARKS

Claims 7, 10-15, and 17 are pending in the application. In the final Office Action of May 9, 2007, the Examiner made the following disposition:

- A.) Commented on information disclosure statement.
- B.) Rejected claims 7, 10-15, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Narang, et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,168,885) in view of *Schneider, et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,180,281) in view of *Gozdz, et al.* (U.S. Patent 5,840,087) in view of *Kumeuchi, et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,156,080).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and address the Examiner's disposition below. Claims 7 and 17 have been amended. Claims 14 and 15 have been canceled.

- A.) Commented on information disclosure statement:

Applicants acknowledge the reference cited in the IDS mailed on 3/23/2007 has not been considered because it is not in the English language. Applicants reserve the right to file a supplemental IDS with an English-language translation.

- B.) Rejection of claims 7, 10-15, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Narang, et al.* (U.S. Patent 6, 168,885) in view of *Schneider, et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,180,281) in view of *Gozdz, et al* (U.S. Patent 5,840,087) in view of *Kumeuchi, et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,156,080):

Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection.

Independent claims 7 and 17, each as amended, each claim subject matter relating to forming gel-electrolyte layers on both sides of a positive electrode and a negative electrode. One of the solid-electrolyte layers formed on the positive electrode and one of the gel-electrolyte layers formed on the negative electrode face each other. After pressing, the positive electrode and negative electrode are wound. The wound electrodes are inserted into a film pack. After inserting the wound electrodes into the film pack, the wound electrodes are subjected to heat treatment so that gel-electrolyte layers formed on the positive electrode and the gel-electrolyte layers formed on the negative electrode are integrated with each other into one continuous seamless layer.

This is unlike *Narang* in view of *Schneider* in view of *Gozdz* and further in view of *Kumeuchi*, which fail to disclose or suggest inserting wound pressed electrodes into a film pack and then subjecting the wound electrodes to heat treatment so that gel-electrolyte layers are

integrated with each other into one continuous seamless layer. In fact, none of the cited references teaches or suggests subjecting wound electrodes to heat treatment after the wound electrodes are inserted into a film pack. This subject matter is simply not discussed in the cited references.

For at least these reasons, *Narang* in view of *Schneider* in view of *Gozdz* and further in view of *Kumeuchi* fails to teach or suggest claims 7 and 17.

Claims 10-13 depend directly or indirectly from claim 7 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 7 is allowable.

Claims 14 and 15 have been canceled.

Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 7, 10-15, and 17 are patentable. It is therefore submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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